

20 July 1960

Dear Matt,

Thank you very much for the birthday greetings as well as for your letter of 14 June. It was nice of you to remember me in this personal way. I sometimes wonder how you manage to do it with each of us, especially when there are so many other matters requiring your own attention. In many ways July is our big month -- my birthday on the 31st, Sheila's on the 21st, and our wedding anniversary on the 21st, (our 24th!).

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Your letter raised the question as to my next assignment. I honestly believe that my next one should be an operational assignment. As I recall, this is where we left it at the time of your last visit here. You stated then that I should try for a "prestige" type Station. Frankly, from what I have seen I believe that I could handle most any of them. My present one has not been easy. In fact, I doubt if there are many that are much more difficult, especially from the personnel management end. Of course, my problems in this regard have been compounded by administrative and fiscal changes that I found were necessary. On balance, however, this has been a very rewarding tour. To return to your question, I believe an operational assignment when I finish here would be in the company's best interest and, in the long run, would make me a more valued member of Training. My one main requirement is that I would like to have my family with me. I am ready to serve elsewhere in this area (I understand [redacted] may be open or even [redacted] could be very interesting professionally) or elsewhere (e.g., [redacted] or [redacted]).

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With regard to the top service schools, I believe that the only one now that I should be considered for would be the National War College. As we discussed this possibility a few years back while I was still at [redacted] it was a question of when to try to fit it in. Now that I have pulled up stakes, I would prefer to have my next assignment in the field. On the other hand, the timing may be such that it would be best to try to fit in the War College in between field assignments. You will be in the best position to determine that. In any case, Matt, I

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would like to let you know that I do appreciate your interest in me and the assistance that you have given me by seeing that I was placed where I could be of real service to the company.

Once again thank you for your thoughtful letter. We are looking forward to your next visit. Ila and the children join in sending best wishes and kindest personal regards.

Very sincerely,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the sender.

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